

**Q. What is the Primary Election?**

- A. The Primary Election is an election by the political parties to nominate their candidates for the General Election ballot. ***No one is elected in a Primary election***; candidates are *nominated*. In order to win a political party nomination, the candidate must receive more votes than anyone else in his/her party for that race and receive at least 35% of the votes cast for that office by members of their political party.

**Q. Why is the Primary Election different from other types of elections?**

- A. The difference between Primary Elections and other elections is that a voter's party affiliation must be declared and it must be included on election registers, eligibility slips, absentee ballot requests and absentee ballot affidavits.

**Q. If I am registered as unaffiliated (No Party) can I still vote in the Primary Election?**

- A. Yes. However, you will have to re-register with one of the three parties in order to cast a ballot. Only voters registered with one of the three parties (Democratic, Libertarian, or Republican) may vote in the Primary Election.

**Q. Can I change my party affiliation at the time that I vote?**

- A. Yes.

**Q. If I declare a party to vote for in the Primary Election can I change back to my previous registration?**

- A. Yes. However, you may not do so the same day as voting. You will need to complete a new [voter registration application](#). The change will be processed after the Primary Election has been certified and vote credit has been posted for every voter.

**Q. Can I write in candidates from other parties on my Primary ballot?**

- A. Primary election voters are making nominations for their own political parties. A write-in vote for a Libertarian candidate on a Republican ballot will be tallied as a Republican vote, not a Libertarian vote. Votes are not aggregated across party lines.

**Q. How do nonpartisan candidates get on a ballot?**

- A. Nonpartisan candidates will file nomination papers for the General Election (November 6, 2018). The Primary Election is held to nominate political party candidates to the General Election ballot; therefore, candidates not affiliated with the three political parties cannot participate in the Primary Election.